

ST PAUL THE APOSTLE RC CHURCH Weekly Newsletter

Physically Apart Always Spiritually Connected



DEAR PARISHIONERS

The first reading today from the Acts of the Apostles reminds us of the importance of prayer for sustaining a community during a time of crisis. The reading tells us how those first followers gathered with Our Lady in prayer after the ascension. We don't know anything about their emotional reaction to the ascension, but I'm sure they must have felt a deep sense of loss.

The disciples had already experienced the turmoil of Jesus' death followed by the confusion and joy of the resurrection. Once again they have to deal with the abrupt loss as Jesus ascends into heaven. This is what brings them together in prayer.

At this time many people are feeling the loss of physical contact and interaction, this reading offers prayer as a way to cope and connect. As they gather together the disciples wait and pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit, I'm sure Our Lady was an important presence for them as she is for us today, as we pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit in our lives. During these days of prayer I encourage you to pray for the fruits of the Holy Spirit in your own lives.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

- 25th May St Bede
- 26th May St Philip Neri
- 27th May St Augustine of Canterbury
- 29th May St Paul VI
- 31st May Pentecost (Try and wear something red for Mass today)

PARISH COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Daily 15:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Daily 19:00 Community Rosary
- 26 May 2020 @ 19:45 - Talk on St Francis
- 29 May 2020 @ 17:30 B-ATTITUDE GROUP
- 30 May 2020 @ 16:00 Coffee & Cake Social
- 31 May 2020 @ 10:00 Virtual Mass

Visit our ParishWebsite to register for these events

Subscribe to the Parish YouTube Channel
so you never miss Mass

CONTACT US

PARISH WEBSITE
[HTTPS://PARISH.RCDOW.OR.UK/WOODGREEN/](https://parish.rcdow.or.uk/woodgreen/)

FR PERRY - [PERRYSYKES@RCDOW.ORG.UK](mailto:perrysykes@rcdow.org.uk)
FR JONATHAN - [JONSTOGDON@RCDOW.ORG.UK](mailto:jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk)

TELEPHONE: 0208 888 2390





Message from Cardinal Vincent

CARDINAL VINCENT: has recorded a video of a pastoral message in preparation for Pentecost. In it, he reflects on the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, particularly in the context of the circumstances in which we are living at the moment. The video is available on our Parish website or visit the diocesan websites. <https://vimeo.com/421046273>

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Have responded to the government's document released on the 11 May, titled 'Our plan to rebuild: The UK Government's COVID-19 recovery strategy'.



(A link to this document can be found on the Parish Website)

Statement

The timing and the manner of the opening of churches touches profound sensitivities and spiritual needs. The Government's document and statements fail to recognise this.

The Government's position, established today, includes these steps aimed at opening churches as soon as possible: the establishment of a task force for places of worship, to work closely with 'stakeholders' in ensuring that premises are COVID-19 secure; and heeding the experience of other countries in which churches are already open for worship.

In dialogue with the Government, the Catholic Church will continue its engagement in this process and has already submitted a detailed plan, in full accordance with public health guidelines, for churches to be opened for private prayer.

The Church is ready to play its full part in the task force, understanding that this includes the possible earlier use of churches for private prayer, as a first safe step towards their use for public worship.

'COME HOLY SPIRIT'

Monday - Pray today for PEACE AND JOY

Tuesday - Pray today for PATIENCE AND GENTLENESS

Wednesday - Pray today for GOODNESS

Thursday - Pray today for FAITHFULNESS

Friday - Pray today for CHARITY, KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY

Saturday - Pray today for MODESTY, SELF CONTROL AND CHASTITY

FOOD BANK DONATIONS:

Thank you to those who gave donations in the last week.

No more donations are required at present. Many thanks for your generosity.



OUR PARISH PREPARATION:

Here in our parish Fr Perry has asked the Parish Finance and Building Committee and a few other parishioners to work with him in looking at what needs to be done in preparation for the re-opening of St Paul's.



PRAYER FROM POPE FRANCIS TO USE AT THE END OF THE ROSARY DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

O Mary

You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you,

Health of

the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith. "Protectress of all people",

you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee,

joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells

us.

For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross,

to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

As a parish community let us continue praying the rosary in our homes or join us on Zoom at 7pm every evening. See the website for details how to register for praying the Rosary on Zoom.

CATHEDRAL MASS ON THURSDAYS

A small initiative agreed by the bishops in England and Wales that every Thursday evening, at 7pm, a bishop, in turn, will celebrate Mass in his cathedral, live streamed, for all those frontline workers in the NHS and care homes, for the sick and their families.

The date, location and live-streaming information (link in the name of the cathedral) for the next Mass on

**Thursday 28th May:
Bishop Terence Drainey, Middlesbrough Cathedral**

Here in our parish the intention for our Thursday Masses will be for all those frontline workers in the NHS and care homes, for the sick and their families.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to give a Mass Intention please telephone or send an email. Details at the bottom of this letter.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Derek Vitali** and **Rita Mongelard** As a parish community we offer our condolences and prayers to the families at this time.

PRAYER IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

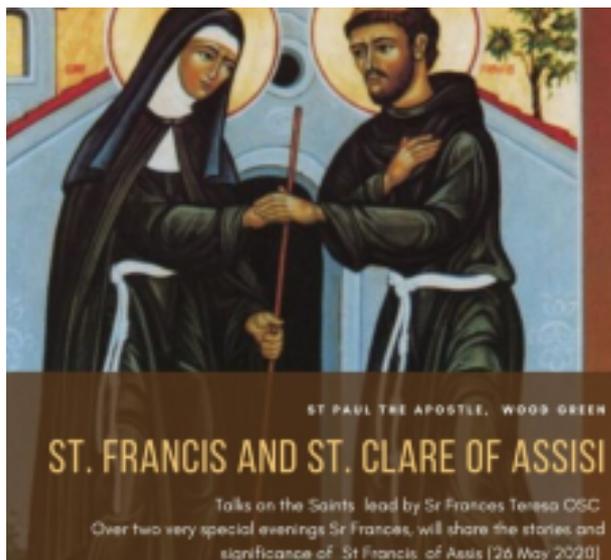
Almighty and eternal God

Our refuge in every danger, To whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leader and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



WHATS HAPPENING IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK???



TALKS ON ST FRANCIS AND ST CLARE OF ASSISI

by **Sister Frances Teresa OSC** who is a member of the community of Poor Clares at Hollington, East Sussex. She is the author of a number of books on Francis and Clare. Over two very special evenings Sr Frances, will share the stories and significance of St Francis (**26 May @ 7.45pm**) and St Clare (2 June @ 7.45pm). **To register please see the parish website.**

We're going online



STARTING 1 JUNE 2020

Alpha Update

As we can no longer gather in person, we are taking our course online! Join us as we continue to explore the big questions of life together
Please Keep in touch

Join Today!!

.....with the parish through our parish website, email or telephone, details can be found at the end of this message. Add the parish email to your contacts so that messages don't get put into your junk mail

.If you need help with shopping or you just want to chat please do contact us - we are here for you. Please do give us a call it would be good to hear how you are getting on at this time.
 us a weekend online "retreat"

With our warmest best wishes and assurance of prayers for you and your loved ones for this coming week.

Fr Perry , Fr Jonathan and Fr Tom



B-ATTITUDE GROUP
FRIDAY 22ND MAY @ 17.30

Meeting via Zoom contact Fr Jonathan if you need details.

COFFEE AND CAKE VIA ZOOM 
SATURDAY -30 MAY 2020

Come and share a virtual cup of coffee (or tea) this Saturday afternoon @ 16:00. This will be a great opportunity to share your 'Lock Down' experience, some recipes and lots of laughter with our community. **Joining information on the Parish Website**

SUNDAY @ 10:00 MASS VIA ZOOM
31 MAY 2020

Join us on Sunday morning at 10:00am to watch Mass via Zoom at St Paul's, it will be a great opportunity for us to reconnect, all Parishioners are welcome.

Please visit the Parish Website for registration information

What is Alpha Online?

A chance to explore the big questions in life and the Christian faith, in a friendly, open and informal environment Open to anyone, anywhere - non-believers, committed Christians, occasional churchgoers, those who haven't been for a while or have doubts

How does it work?

Meeting on Zoom from 20:15 - 21:15 on Mondays, starting 1st June. 8 Monday sessions, each featuring a short film, then an online small group discussion, where you say what you think. Plus a weekend online "retreat"

Spaces our limited details of how to register can be found on the parish website.

Have you spotted our Banners?



Give us a Call!



Contact Us

Parish Website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/woodgreen/>

Fr Perry - perrysykes@rcdow.org.uk

Fr Jonathan - jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk

Telephone: 0208 888 2390